

DESCRIPTION

SCHEDULING APPARATUS AND COMMUNICATION METHOD

TECHNICAL FIELD

5 The present invention relates to a scheduling apparatus and a communication method, and particularly to a scheduling apparatus and a communication method suitable to be used for HSDPA (High Speed Downlink Packet Access).

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BACKGROUND ART

 In CDMA (Code Division Multiple Access), which is one of access schemes for digital radio communication systems, a W-CDMA (Wideband-CDMA) system is included. In the W-
15 CDMA standards, an HS-DSCH (High Speed Downlink Shared CHannel) is specified as a downlink channel shared by a plurality of communication terminal apparatuses.

 This HS-DSCH is a channel that is assigned to a plurality of terminals in terms of a predetermined
20 transmission unit of, e.g., 2 ms and that transmits only data, and is for communicating data. Hence, the HS-DSCH is expected to be used for downlink, high-speed packet data transmission.

 Communication terminal apparatuses using the HS-DSCH
25 set up respective other downlink channels (DPCHs: Dedicated Physical CHannels), and perform path search and channel estimation by using known signals (for example, pilot signals) contained in those DPCH signals.

Alternatively, the communication terminal apparatuses perform the path search and channel estimation by using known signals contained in a P-CPICH (Primary-Common Pilot CHannel) common to them. By this means, the HS-DSCH
5 signal can be certainly demodulated.

Furthermore, the HS-DSCH channel is a communication method that can improve average throughput by changing channel codec, spreading factor, the number of multiplexes, or multi-value modulation and thus the
10 transmission rate, corresponding to the link state.

However, when the maximum Doppler frequency of fading is high due to, for example, high speed movement of the communication partner, the transmission path condition that is measured at his moving communication terminal apparatus in order to create the schedule for transmit
15 data may be different from the transmission path condition where the moving communication terminal apparatus receives data transmitted from a base station apparatus based on the measuring result. Thus, the
20 transmitted data may not be received correctly.

Moreover, when the Fading Doppler frequency is low and the transmission path condition remains poor, if the transmit data is retransmitted, the transmit data cannot be correctly transmitted either, and thus the problem
25 occurs that the retransmission of the transmit data is repeated, thereby lowering throughput.

DISCLOSURE of INVENTION

An object of the present invention is to provide a scheduling apparatus and communication method that improves throughput.

5 The object is achieved by determining the order in which to transmit packet data based on the changes in the transmission path conditions, specifically, by transmitting packet data earlier to a communication partner whose transmission path condition changes rapidly
10 and later to a communication partner whose transmission path condition changes slowly.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a block diagram showing the configuration
15 of a base station apparatus according to embodiment 1 of the present invention;

FIG. 2 is a view showing an example of the priority in the order of packet data transmission by the base station apparatus of the above embodiment;

20 FIG. 3 is a block diagram showing the configuration of a base station apparatus according to embodiment 2 of the present invention;

FIG. 4 is a view showing an example of the priority in the order of packet data transmission by a
25 conventional base station apparatus;

FIG. 5 is a view showing an example of the priority in the order of packet data transmission by the base station apparatus of the above embodiment;

FIG. 6 is a view showing an example of the priority in the order of packet data transmission by the base station apparatus of the above embodiment;

FIG. 7 is a block diagram showing the configuration of a base station apparatus according to embodiment 3 of the present invention;

FIG. 8 is a view showing an example of receive qualities in the base station apparatus of the above embodiment;

FIG. 9 is a view showing an example of the priority in the order of packet data transmission by the base station apparatus of the above embodiment;

FIG. 10 is a view showing examples of the change in a transmission path condition;

FIG. 11 is a block diagram showing the configuration of a base station apparatus according to embodiment 4 of the present invention; and

FIG. 12 is a view showing an example of the priority in the order of packet data transmission by the base station apparatus of the above embodiment.

Best Mode for Carrying out the Invention

The essence of the present invention is to determine the order in which to transmit packet data based on the changes in the transmission path conditions, and specifically, to transmit packet data earlier to a communication partner whose transmission path condition changes rapidly and later to a communication partner

whose transmission path condition changes slowly.

Embodiments of the present invention will be described in detail below with reference to the drawing.

(Embodiment 1)

5 In the present embodiment, the speed of the change in the transmission path condition is detected from the Fading Doppler frequency measured, and thus the order in which to transmit packet data is determined. For example, when the change in the relative distance with a
10 communication partner is large, that is, the Fading Doppler frequency is high, the change in the transmission path condition is large. Accordingly, after conditions for transmission are determined, packet data is transmitted earlier before the transmission path
15 condition changes.

On the other hand, when the change in the relative distance with a communication partner is small, that is, the Fading Doppler frequency is low, the change in the transmission path condition is small. Hence, it has
20 little effect on the receive side whether packet data is transmitted earlier or later.

FIG. 1 is a block diagram showing the configuration of a base station apparatus according to embodiment 1 of the present invention. In FIG. 1, a base station
25 apparatus 100 basically comprises a radio receiver 101, a demodulator 102, a decoding section 103, an FD detector 104, a schedule creating section 105, a buffer 106, a switch circuit 107, a multiplexing section 108, an

encoding section 109, a modulator 110, and a radio transmitter 111.

The radio receiver 101 receives a radio signal transmitted from a communication partner, converts it to
5 a base band frequency, and outputs the obtained received signal to the demodulator 102. The demodulator 102 demodulates the received signal and outputs to the decoding section 103. The decoding section 103 decodes the demodulated received signal and outputs to the fD
10 detector 104.

The fD detector 104 detects a maximum Doppler frequency from the decoded received signal and outputs to the schedule creating section 105.

The schedule creating section 105 determines, for
15 each user, a time (or order) at which to transmit packet data thereto from the maximum Doppler frequencies detected by the fD detector 104, and outputs to the switch circuit 107 and the multiplexing section 108 schedule information indicating these times at which to
20 transmit the packets of data.

The buffer 106 temporarily stores the packet of data to be transmitted on a common channel to each user and then outputs to the switch circuit 107. The switch circuit 107 sequentially outputs the packets of data to
25 be transmitted to the respective users to the encoding section 109 according to the schedule created by the schedule creating section 105.

The multiplexing section 108 multiplexes the schedule

for transmitting the packets of data, output from the schedule creating section 105 and control data necessary for transmitting packet data on the common channel, and outputs to the encoding section 109.

5 For example, when transmitting packet data for a plurality of users in time multiplex, an Associated DPCCH is necessary as an up- and down-link channel for transmission of control data necessary for transmitting packet data, in addition to the HS-DSCH used for
10 transmission of the packet data.

 The encoding section 109 encodes packet data output from the switch circuit 107 and data output from the multiplexing section 108 individually and outputs to the modulator 110. Furthermore, the encoding section 109
15 encodes individual data such as voice data, non-restriction data, and packet data to be transmitted on the individual channel and common control data individually, and outputs to the modulator 110.

 The modulator 110 modulates and spreads individually
20 those data output from the encoding section 109, multiplexes those modulated spread data, and outputs to the radio transmitter 111. The radio transmitter 111 converts the data output from the modulator 110 to a radio frequency signal and transmits the radio signal.

25 Next, the operation of the base station apparatus according to the present embodiment creating the schedule will be described. FIG. 2 is a view showing an example of the priority in order of which the base station apparatus

of the present embodiment transmits packets of data. In FIG. 2, the priority is determined from values such as CIRs indicating the transmission path conditions. It is assumed that, for example, the priority for data to be transmitted to UE1 is "10", the priority for UE2 is "9", the priority for UE3 is "8", and the priority for UE4 is "7".

In the case of a conventional base station apparatus, data for the UE1, UE2, UE3, and UE4 is transmitted in descending order of the priority shown above. The base station apparatus of the present embodiment adds correction values obtained from the Fading Doppler frequencies to the priorities, and transmits data to the communication terminal apparatuses in descending order of the corrected priorities.

For example, it is assumed that, as results of the FD detector 104 of the base station apparatus measuring the Fading Doppler frequency of each UE, the Fading Doppler frequency of UE1 is 30 Hz, the Fading Doppler frequency of UE2 is 200 Hz, the Fading Doppler frequency of UE3 is 100 Hz, and the Fading Doppler frequency of UE4 is 300 Hz.

The schedule creating section 105 takes the product of 0.01 times the Fading Doppler frequency as the correction value for the corresponding priority. Then, the correction value for UE1 is "0.3", the correction value for UE2 is "2", the correction value for UE3 is "1", and the correction value for UE4 is "3". The schedule creating section 105 adds these correction values to the

priorities respectively, and creates a schedule to transmit data earlier to a communication terminal apparatus having a higher corrected priority.

In this example, the corrected priority for UE1 is
5 "10.3", the corrected priority for UE2 is "11", the corrected priority for UE3 is "9", and the corrected priority for UE4 is "10".

Then, the schedule creating section 105 creates a schedule to transmit data in descending order of the
10 corrected priorities, that is, in the order of UE2, UE1, UE4, and UE3.

As described above, according to the base station apparatus of the present embodiment, data is transmitted earlier to a communication terminal apparatus having a
15 higher Fading Doppler frequency and data is transmitted later to a communication terminal apparatus having a lower Fading Doppler frequency. Thus, throughput can be improved.

(Embodiment 2)

20 In radio communication, because the transmission path condition may vary from the time of first data transmission to the time of retransmission, the transmit data may not be able to be correctly retransmitted under the same communication scheme. A conceivable method for
25 correctly transmitting data is to change the modulation scheme and encoding rate to retransmit the transmit data, but when re-transmitting, the transmit data needs to be encoded again, thus increasing the processing amount and

delay time and thereby lowering throughput.

In the present embodiment of the invention, without changing the modulation scheme and encoding rate for the transmit data, the schedule according to which data is
5 transmitted is created taking into account the changes in the transmission path conditions estimated from the Fading Doppler frequencies measured.

FIG. 3 is a block diagram showing the configuration of a base station apparatus according to embodiment 2 of
10 the present invention. The same constituents as in FIG. 1 are indicated by the same reference numerals as in FIG. 1, and a description thereof is omitted. A base station apparatus 300 of FIG. 3 comprises a NACK extracting section 301 and a schedule creating section 302, and is
15 different from the base station apparatus of FIG. 1 in that the apparatus 300 creates a schedule to transmit data including retransmit data.

The decoding section 103 decodes a received signal and outputs to the FD detector 104 and the NACK
20 extracting section 301.

The FD detector 104 detects a maximum Doppler frequency from the decoded received signal and outputs to the schedule creating section 302. The NACK extracting section 301 extracts a NACK signal requesting to
25 retransmit data from the decoded received signal. If the NACK signal is detected, the NACK extracting section 301 outputs a request to retransmit data to the schedule creating section 302.

The schedule creating section 302 determines, for each user, a time (or order) at which to transmit packet data thereto from the maximum Doppler frequencies detected by the fD detector 104, and outputs to the switch circuit 107 and the multiplexing section 108 schedule information indicating these times at which to transmit the packets of data. When having received a request to retransmit data from the NACK extracting section 301, the schedule creating section 302 determines, for each user, a time (or order) at which to transmit packet data thereto from the maximum Doppler frequencies, the packets of data including the data to be retransmitted, and outputs to the switch circuit 107 and the multiplexing section 108 schedule information indicating these times at which to transmit the packets of data.

The buffer 106 temporarily stores the packet of data to be transmitted on a common channel to each user and then outputs to the switch circuit 107. The switch circuit 107 sequentially outputs the packets of data to be transmitted to the respective users to the encoding section 109 according to the schedule created by the schedule creating section 302.

Next, the operation of the base station apparatus according to the present embodiment creating the schedule will be described. FIG. 4 is a view showing an example of the priority in order of which the base station apparatus of the present embodiment transmits packets of data. In

FIG. 4, the priority is determined from values such as CIRs indicating the transmission path conditions. It is assumed that, for example, the priority for data to be transmitted to UE1 is "8", the priority for UE2 is "9",
5 the priority for UE3 is "10", and the priority for UE4 is "7". Furthermore, the data for UE1 is assumed to be data to be retransmitted.

In the case of a conventional base station apparatus, the priority for UE1 to which to retransmit is corrected,
10 and data is transmitted to the communication terminal apparatuses in descending order of the corrected priorities. For example, a correction value of "1.5" is added to the priority of "8" for UE1 to which to retransmit, so that the priority for UE1 becomes "9.5".
15 Then, data is transmitted in descending order of the corrected priorities: the order of UE3, UE1, UE2, and UE4.

The base station apparatus of the present embodiment multiplies the correction value by a correction value obtained from the Fading Doppler frequency, corrects the
20 priority, and transmits data to the communication terminal apparatuses in descending order of the corrected priorities.

First, the case will be explained where the Fading Doppler frequency of a UE to which to retransmit is low.
25 FIG. 5 is a view showing an example of the priority in order of which the base station apparatus of the present embodiment transmits packets of data. FIG. 5 shows an example of the priority in the case where the Fading

Doppler frequency of UE1 is 30 Hz.

The schedule creating section 302 multiplies the correction value of "1.5" for the communication terminal apparatus to which to retransmit by the product of 0.01
5 times the Fading Doppler frequency to obtain a correction value, and adds the obtained correction value to the priority for the communication terminal apparatus UE1 to which to retransmit. In this example, the correction value of "1.5" for re-transmitting is multiplied by the
10 product of 0.01 times the Fading Doppler frequency of "30", which product is 0.3, to obtain a correction value of "0.45".

Then, the schedule creating section 302 adds the correction value of "0.45" to the priority of "8" for UE1.
15 As a result, the priority for UE1 becomes "8.45".

The schedule creating section 302 creates a schedule to transmit data to the communication terminal apparatuses in descending order of the corrected priorities. In this example, after the correction, the
20 corrected priority for UE1 is "8.45", the priority for UE2 is "9", the priority for UE3 is "10", and the priority for UE4 is "7".

Then, the schedule creating section 302 creates a schedule to transmit data in descending order of the
25 corrected priorities, that is, in the order of UE3, UE2, UE1, and UE4.

As described above, when the Fading Doppler frequency is low, the change in the transmission path condition is

gradual, and accordingly with slight correction of the priority for re-transmitting, the time when to retransmit is arranged to become later. Thus, it is possible to retransmit data at a time when the transmission path
5 condition is likely to be good enough. As a result, the possibility of correctly receiving the retransmitted data increases.

Next, the case will be explained where the Fading Doppler frequency of a UE to which to retransmit is high.
10 FIG. 6 is a view showing an example of the priority in order of which the base station apparatus of the present embodiment transmits packets of data. FIG. 6 shows an example of the priority in the case where the Fading Doppler frequency of UE1 is 300 Hz.

15 The schedule creating section 302 multiplies the correction value of "1.5" for the communication terminal apparatus to which to retransmit by the product of 0.01 times the Fading Doppler frequency to obtain a correction value, and adds the obtained correction value to the
20 priority for the communication terminal apparatus UE1 to which to retransmit. In this example, the correction value of "1.5" for re-transmitting is multiplied by the product of 0.01 times the Fading Doppler frequency of "300", which product is 3, to obtain a correction value
25 of "4.5".

Then the schedule creating section 302 adds the correction value of "4.5" to the priority of "8" for UE1. As a result, the priority for UE1 becomes "12.5".

The schedule creating section 302 creates a schedule to transmit data to the communication terminal apparatuses in descending order of the corrected priorities. In this example, after the correction, the
5 corrected priority for UE1 is "12.5", the priority for UE2 is "9", the priority for UE3 is "10", and the priority for UE4 is "7".

Then, the schedule creating section 302 creates a schedule to transmit data in descending order of the
10 corrected priorities, that is, in the order of UE1, UE3, UE2, and UE4.

As described above, when the Fading Doppler frequency is high, the change in the transmission path condition is rapid. Accordingly, with great correction of the priority
15 for re-transmitting, the time when to retransmit is arranged to become earlier, and thus it is possible to retransmit data at a time when the transmission path condition rapidly changing becomes good. As a result, the possibility of correctly receiving the retransmitted data
20 increases.

Moreover, data for a user with a high Fading Doppler frequency can be transmitted with a raised priority while lowering the priority for a user with a low Fading Doppler frequency. That is, because of being able to
25 retransmit with a shorter delay time, receive probability can be raised without changing the modulation scheme and encoding rate for re-transmitting, thereby improving throughput.

As described above, according to the base station apparatus of the present embodiment, data addressed to a communication terminal apparatus having a higher Fading Doppler frequency is retransmitted earlier thereto and
5 data addressed to a communication terminal apparatus having a lower Fading Doppler frequency is retransmitted later thereto. Thus, throughput can be improved.

Note that when a packet to be retransmitted has an allowable delay time set for it, the base station
10 apparatus of the present invention creates a schedule to retransmit the packet within the allowable delay time after the packet is first transmitted. Hence, the packet is retransmitted within the predetermined delay time.

(Embodiment 3)

15 FIG. 7 is a block diagram showing the configuration of a base station apparatus according to embodiment 3 of the present invention. The same constituents as in FIGS. 1 and 3 are indicated by the same reference numerals as in FIGS. 1 and 3, and a description thereof is omitted. A
20 base station apparatus 700 of FIG. 7 comprises a CIR measuring section 701 and a schedule creating section 702, and is different from the base station apparatus of FIG. 1 in that the apparatus 700 creates a schedule to
25 transmit by using the change in receive quality of the received signal.

The decoding section 103 decodes a received signal and outputs to the fd detector 104, the NACK extracting section 301, and the CIR measuring section 701. The fd

detector 104 detects a maximum Doppler frequency from the decoded received signal and outputs to the schedule creating section 702. The NACK extracting section 301 extracts an NACK signal requesting to retransmit data
5 from the decoded received signal. If the NACK signal is detected, the NACK extracting section 301 outputs a request to retransmit data to the schedule creating section 702.

The CIR measuring section 701 measures the receive
10 quality of the received signal such as CIR and outputs the measuring result to the schedule creating section 702.

The schedule creating section 702 determines, for each user, a time (or order) at which to transmit packet data thereto from the maximum Doppler frequencies
15 detected by the fD detector 104 and the receive qualities measured by the CIR measuring section 701, and outputs to the switch circuit 107 and the multiplexing section 108 schedule information indicating these times at which to transmit the packets of data. When having received a
20 request to retransmit data from the NACK extracting section 301, the schedule creating section 702 determines, for each user, a time (or order) at which to transmit packet data thereto from the maximum Doppler frequencies, the packets of data including the data to be
25 retransmitted, and outputs to the switch circuit 107 and the multiplexing section 108 schedule information indicating these times at which to transmit the packets of data.

The buffer 106 temporarily stores the packet of data to be transmitted on a common channel to each user and then outputs to the switch circuit 107. The switch circuit 107 sequentially outputs the packets of data to
5 be transmitted to the respective users to the encoding section 109 according to the schedule created by the schedule creating section 702.

Next, the operation of the base station apparatus according to the present embodiment creating the schedule
10 will be described. In the base station apparatus 700 of the present embodiment, the CIR measuring section 701 measures the CIRs of received signals and the schedule creating section 702 corrects the priorities by using the variations of the CIRs. Here, an example will be
15 explained where packets of data are transmitted to UE1, UE2, UE3, and UE4, a packet of data is not correctly received at UE4, and then the base station apparatus 700 retransmits the packet of data to UE4. FIG. 8 is a view showing an example of the receive qualities in the base
20 station apparatus of the present embodiment.

FIG. 8 shows the CIRs of the received signals used in determining transmit schemes for transmit timing 1, a time when to transmit data, and transmit timing 2, a next time when to transmit. In FIG. 8, at transmit timing 1,
25 the CIR of the signal transmitted from UE1 is 5 dB, and the CIRs of the signals transmitted from UE2, UE3, and UE4 is 4 dB, 3 dB, and 2 dB respectively.

And at transmit timing 2, the CIR of the signal

transmitted from UE1 is 6 dB, and the CIRs of the signals transmitted from UE2, UE3, and UE4 is 7 dB, 6 dB, and 2 dB respectively.

For UE1, the difference between the CIRs at transmit
5 timings 1 and 2 is 1 dB. The difference in CIR for UE2 is 3 dB, the difference in CIR for UE3 is 3 dB, and the difference in CIR for UE4 is 0 dB.

The schedule creating section 702 determines the priority for packet data to be retransmitted taking into
10 account the CIR differences, and then determines a transmit timing when to transmit the packet data. FIG. 9 is a view showing an example of the priority in order of which the base station apparatus of the present embodiment transmits packets of data.

15 The schedule creating section 702 calculates a correction value for the priority for UE4 to which to retransmit packet data from the difference in CIR of FIG. 8. For example, the schedule creating section 702 multiplies the difference in CIR by a weight (e.g., 0.7)
20 related to a correction value from the Fading Doppler frequency and then multiplies by a predetermined value (e.g., 1.5) to obtain a correction value for the priority for re-transmitting. In the example of FIG. 9, because the difference in CIR for UE4 is 0 dB, the correction
25 value for the priority is "0".

Furthermore, the schedule creating section 702 calculates the Fading Doppler frequency multiplied by a predetermined value as a correction value. For example,

the schedule creating section 702 calculates the product of 0.01 times the Fading Doppler frequency. Further, the schedule creating section 702 multiplies the product by a weight related to the correction value from the CIR. The
5 schedule creating section 702 multiplies the product by, for example, 0.3 and multiplies by a predetermined value (e.g., 1.5) to obtain a correction value for the priority for re-transmitting.

It is assumed that the Fading Doppler frequency of
10 UE4 is 300 Hz. The schedule creating section 702 multiplies this Fading Doppler frequency by "0.01", "0.3", and "1.5" to obtain a correction value of "1.35".

Then, the schedule creating section 702 adds the correction values from the CIR difference and the Fading
15 Doppler frequency to the priority for UE4.

In FIG. 9, the priority for UE1 is "8", the priority for UE2 is "12", the priority for UE3 is "11", and the priority for UE4 is "10". The schedule creating section 702 adds the correction values of "0" and "1.35" to the
20 priority of "10" for UE4 to which to retransmit packet data. As a result, the priority for UE4 becomes "11.35".

The schedule creating section 702 determines the order in which to transmit packet data to the UEs so as to transmit in descending order of the corrected
25 priorities. In this example, a schedule to transmit packets of data in the order of UE2, UE4, UE3, and UE1 is created.

As described above, according to the base station

apparatus of the present embodiment, a schedule to transmit is created using the change in receive quality of the received signal, and thus throughput can be improved.

5 (Embodiment 4)

In embodiment 2, data addressed to a communication terminal apparatus having a higher Fading Doppler frequency is retransmitted earlier thereto and data addressed to a communication terminal apparatus having a
10 lower Fading Doppler frequency is retransmitted later thereto, thus improving throughput.

In the case where the Fading Doppler frequency is even higher such that the cycle in which the transmission path condition changes is shorter than a unit of
15 transmit-time, the transmission path condition may have deteriorated when data addressed to a communication terminal apparatus having a higher Fading Doppler frequency is retransmitted earlier thereto.

FIG. 10 shows examples of the change in the
20 transmission path condition. FIG. 10 illustrates the case where a base station apparatus (BS) transmits data to a communication terminal apparatus (MS) and the communication terminal apparatus finds an error in the received data, thus transmitting a request to retransmit
25 (NACK). In FIG. 10, the abscissa represents time and the ordinate represents the transmission path condition.

In the examples of FIG. 10, it takes 10 ms, the shortest interval, from when the base station apparatus

transmits data until re-transmitting. When the Fading Doppler frequency is low (3 Hz) or high (40 Hz), by transmitting at the data retransmit timing of FIG. 10, data can be retransmitted before the transmission path condition deteriorates.

However, in the case where the Fading Doppler frequency is very high (200 Hz), the transmission path condition has deteriorated even when transmitting at the retransmit timing with the shortest interval as shown in FIG. 10.

In embodiment 4, the way of creating a schedule will be explained for the case where the Fading Doppler frequency is very high.

FIG. 11 is a block diagram showing the configuration of a base station apparatus according to embodiment 4 of the present invention. The same constituents as in FIG. 1 are indicated by the same reference numerals as in FIG. 1, and a description thereof is omitted. A base station apparatus 1100 of FIG. 11 comprises a NACK extracting section 1101 and a schedule creating section 1102, and is different from the base station apparatus of FIG. 1 in that the apparatus 1100 creates a schedule to transmit by determining whether to transmit to-be-retransmitted data earlier or not from the Fading Doppler frequency.

The decoding section 103 decodes the received signal and outputs to the fd detector 104 and the NACK extracting section 1101.

The fd detector 104 detects a maximum Doppler

frequency from the decoded received signal and outputs to the schedule creating section 1102. The NACK extracting section 1101 extracts an NACK signal requesting to retransmit data from the decoded received signal. If the
5 NACK signal is detected, the NACK extracting section 1101 outputs a request to retransmit data to the schedule creating section 1102.

The schedule creating section 1102 determines, for each user, a time (or order) at which to transmit packet
10 data thereto from the maximum Doppler frequencies detected by the fD detector 104, and outputs to the switch circuit 107 and the multiplexing section 108 schedule information indicating these times at which to transmit packet data. When having received a request to
15 retransmit data from the NACK extracting section 1101, the schedule creating section 1102 determines whether to raise the priority for to-be-retransmitted data to transmit earlier or not from the Fading Doppler frequency, and outputs to the switch circuit 107 and the
20 multiplexing section 108 schedule information indicating these times at which to transmit packet data.

Specifically, for example, when the cycle of the Fading Doppler is longer than the time interval between when transmitting and a next time when to retransmit, the
25 schedule creating section 1102 creates a schedule to transmit earlier by higher priority as the Fading Doppler frequency becomes higher. For example, a correction value of $1.5 \times fD \times 0.01$, where fD (Hz) is the Fading Doppler

frequency, is added to the priority.

Moreover, for example, when the cycle of the Fading Doppler is shorter than a unit of transmit-time and longer than half the unit of transmit-time, the schedule
5 creating section 1102 creates a schedule to transmit earlier by higher priority as the Fading Doppler frequency becomes lower. For example, a correction value of $1.5 - \{1.5 \times (f_D - 100) \times 0.01\}$, where f_D (Hz) is the Fading Doppler frequency, is added to the priority.

10 When the cycle of the Fading Doppler is shorter than half the unit of transmit-time, the schedule creating section 1102 does not correct the priority based on the Fading Doppler frequency.

The buffer 106 temporarily stores the packet of data
15 to be transmitted on a common channel to each user and then outputs to the switch circuit 107. The switch circuit 107 sequentially outputs the packets of data to be transmitted to the respective users to the encoding section 109 according to the schedule created by the
20 schedule creating section 1102.

Next, the operation of the base station apparatus according to the present embodiment creating the schedule will be described. FIG. 12 is a view showing an example of the priority in order of which the base station
25 apparatus of the present embodiment transmits packets of data. In FIG. 12, the priority is determined from values such as CIRs indicating the transmission path conditions. For example, it is assumed that the priority for data to

be transmitted to UE1 is "8", the priority for UE2 is "9", the priority for UE3 is "10", and the priority for UE4 is "7". Furthermore, data for UE4 is data to be retransmitted. Yet further, it is assumed that the Fading Doppler frequency of UE1 is 30 Hz, the Fading Doppler frequency of UE2 is 200 Hz, the Fading Doppler frequency of UE3 is 100 Hz, and the Fading Doppler frequency of UE4 is 300 Hz.

The schedule creating section 1102 determines whether to correct the priority from the Fading Doppler frequency of a communication terminal apparatus to which to transmit to-be-retransmitted data. Here, the Fading Doppler frequency of UE4 to which to transmit to-be-retransmitted data is 300 Hz. The schedule creating section 1102 determines that the Fading Doppler cycle is shorter than half the unit of transmit-time and that the change in the transmission path condition is very rapid, and does not correct the priority to be used in creating a schedule based on the Fading Doppler frequency.

As a result, the schedule creating section 1102 creates a schedule to transmit packets of data in the order of UE3, UE2, UE1, and UE4.

According to the base station apparatus of the present embodiment, when the Fading Doppler frequency is so high that the cycle of the change in the transmission path condition is shorter than the data transmit interval, by determining the order in which to transmit data regardless of the Fading Doppler frequency, it is

prevented that data is vainly preferentially transmitted at a timing when the transmission path condition is poor, and only when being effective, the transmit priority is raised, thereby being able to improve throughput.

5 In the description of the present embodiment, the Max CIR scheme is used which selects a user whose the transmission path condition (determined based on, for example, results of measuring CIRs) is best and transmits, but, not being limited to this, another packet assigning
10 scheme may be used such as a round robin scheme that assigns packets to users evenly in order of user number.

 Note that the common channel explained above, not being limited to any, need only be a channel shared by a plurality of communication terminal apparatuses and used
15 to receive packet data, and the present invention can be applied to DSCH and HSDPA.

 Moreover, the above schedule creating sections can be provided in apparatuses other than base station apparatuses, and can be used in any apparatuses that
20 transmit packet data on a common channel and that control such transmission. For example, an apparatus of higher level than a base station apparatus such as RNC may be provided with the above schedule creating section to notify a schedule to the base station apparatus for
25 transmission of packet data, and that the base station apparatus may transmit packet data to communication terminal apparatuses according to the schedule.

 Furthermore, the present invention is not limited to

the above embodiments, but can be implemented with various modifications made therein. While the above embodiments describe the case of a base station apparatus, the present invention is not limited to this, but the
5 communication method can be implemented as software, for example.

For example, it is alternatively possible that a program to perform the above communication method is stored beforehand in ROM (Read Only Memory) and a CPU
10 (Central Processor Unit) executes the program.

Further alternatively, it is possible that a program to perform the above communication method is stored in a storage medium readable for a computer, the program stored in the storage medium is then installed in RAM
15 (Random Access Memory), and the computer operates according to the program.

As obvious from the above description, according to the scheduling apparatus and communication method of the present invention, the order in which to transmit packet
20 data is determined based on the changes in the transmission path conditions, and thus throughput can be improved.

The present description is based on Japanese Patent Application No. 2002-158190 filed on May 30, 2002, which
25 is herein incorporated by reference.

INDUSTRIAL APPLICABILITY

The present invention is suitable to use for radio

10/509493

28

DT04 Rec'd PCT/PTO 29 SEP 2004

communication apparatuses.